

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 have been examined. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, 13-15, 17 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), and claims 4, 6, 10, 12, 16 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, 13-15, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,973,327 to Seita (“Seita”)

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 1 recites a mobile terminal having a contactless IC device for communicating with external equipment. The mobile terminal further has a control means for enabling or disabling specified functions of the mobile terminal according to information received from the external equipment.

The Examiner maintains that Seita discloses the above features. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. For example, Seita is directed to a contactless IC device provided in a mobile terminal. However, Seita is concerned with the proper placement of an IC chip and IC card antenna to minimize the thickness of mobile phones without compromising the communication range of the IC card antenna (Abstract; col. 3, line 61 to col. 4, line 47). Seita fails to teach or suggest that its control section, such as control section 80 of Figure 6, *enables or disables specified functions* of the mobile terminal *according to information received through the contactless IC chip/antenna*, as set forth in claim 1. Applicant submits that the claimed “control

means” requires the Examiner to give patentable weight to the function of the recitation (*See* 35 U.S.C. § 112, sixth paragraph, and MPEP § 2184). There is no such function taught or suggested in Seita. Thus, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference.

B. Claims 7, 13 and 19

Since claims 7, 13 and 19 contain features that are analogous to the features discussed above in regard to claim 1, Applicant submits that claims 7, 13 and 19 are patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

C. Claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15 and 17

Since claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15 and 17 are dependent upon one of claims 1, 7 or 13, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

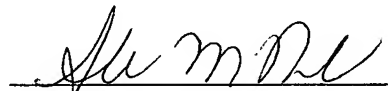
The Examiner has rejected claims 4, 6, 10, 12, 16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Seita in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0028674 to Slettengren (“Slettengren”). However, since Slettengren fails to cure the deficient teachings of Seita, in regard to claims 1, 7, 13 and 19, Applicant submits that claims 4, 6, 10, 12, 16 and 18 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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